மற்ற பாயிண்டுகளை கவர்மெண்டில் கலனித்து வேண்டியது செய்யலாம்.

[Your first subject, *viz.*, the transfer of the site of the Telephone Exchange Office for locating the Municipal Office has come to the consideration of Government. But this site will be handed over to the Municipality after the Engineering Department selects a site and puts up a building for Telephone Exchange. At that time the question of granting a loan for putting up the municipal building will be decided.

In regard to the supply of drinking water, a proposal has been received from your Municipality about the provision of tube wells. The Engineering Department is investigating the matter. After investigation, the Government will do the needful.

The other points will receive the consideration of the Government and what is needful will be done.]

85. Needs of the Vilavancode taluk.

MR. R. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod taluk*) said that the people of the Vilavankod taluk mainly depended on agriculture for their livelihood. But for want of irrigation tanks and timely rain the crops had failed. Added to this, the economic depression prevailing in the country and the great fall in the price of local products had made the condition of the people quite deplorable The people had no money to invest on agriculture, much less to pay Government tax. Hence the member requested that till the Trade Depression Committee to be appointed, finds out some remedial measures or at least for the current year, remission of tax should be allowed in the taluk. If it was not possible to allow full remission, at least half the tax should be remitted.

Passing on to local needs, the member said that he had represented, not less than five times, regarding the necessity for abolishing the tolls levied in the Padannalummud market and that at the last session the Dewan had promised to issue early orders on the subject. But the toll had not been abolished yet. It should be abolished immediately.

The next request was that the *pakuthies* of Edakod and Kaliyal (western portions) should be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Kuzhithura Police Station, from the Thiruvattar Police Station. The same subject was pressed at the previous sessions of the Assembly, but the reply received was that the matter would be considered along with the Police re-allocation scheme. The people were suffering many hardships under the present arrangement and it was not known when the re-allocation scheme would be given effect to. Further it would appear that the Re-allocation Officer had recommended only the transfer of the Edakod *pakuthi*. Hence the matter should be expedited and both the places should be transferred to the Kuzhithura Police jurisdiction.

The urgent necessity for opening a dispensary at Putukada was being represented from the 19th session of the Assembly, but nothing had been done yet. To the same representation made at the

26th session, a reply had been received from the Government that the question of opening a dispensary at Tengapattanam, a place very near Putukada, was engaging the attention of the Government. A dispensary should be opened without any delay at either of the places. A dispensary should also be opened near the sea-coast at Kollenkode, which was the seat of all epidemics. If it was not possible immediately, at least a bi-weekly dispensary should be established at the place without any delay.

The Arumana dispensary was the only Government Medical Institution in the taluk and it was affording medical relief to a large number of in and out-patients. Hence it should be converted into a hospital. If the Medical Board was against the proposal, at least the hospital staff should be strengthened by the appointment of an assistant Medical Officer and an additional compounder.

Another urgent need of the inhabitants of Vilavankod was the appointment of a qualified doctor in the L. M. S. Hospital at Marthandam. It was the subject matter of several representations at successive sessions of the Assembly. In reply to the same representation at the 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th sessions, the Administrative Board, Medical Services had the same remarks to offer, *viz.*, that a new man had been appointed in the hospital and his fitness was being watched. Perhaps the Board would offer the same reply as long as this question formed a subject of representation in the Assembly. The elected Taluk and Municipal members from the place as well as the members nominated by the Government from the taluk had been complaining about the want of a qualified doctor in the Mission Hospital from the very inception of the Assembly. But still no relief had been afforded in the matter. It would appear that the Administrative Board had some motive in not recommending a duly qualified doctor, with a University degree, to the Mission Hospital. If the Government were to be guided by the advice of the Board in this matter, it was certain that the request would never be granted. The necessity for the establishment of a Government Hospital was urged many a time, but it was refused on the ground that there was a Mission Hospital at the place. It was hence that the necessity for the appointment of a qualified doctor in the Hospital was repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government. The matter should be specially enquired into and a qualified doctor, with a University degree, and a Lady Doctor should be appointed in the hospital at an early date.

The lane between Mangattu *Kadavu* and Parthivapuram was improved as a result of the representation made in the Assembly. Before the lane was improved, there was water-logging in it only during the rainy season. But now, as there was no outlet for water, the lane was always full of slush formed of mud and water. The Chief Engineer should be instructed to inspect the place personally and to do the needful in the matter.

It was four years since the Government had promised to investigate the Chittar scheme. Ever since, the matter had been repeatedly urged both in the Assembly and in the Legislative Council. But nothing had been done yet. A special staff should be appointed immediately to investigate the scheme.

Prompt steps were not taken by the P. W. D. authorities in the matter of removing the grievances of the ryots on account of breaches of tank bunds, sluices, etc., during rainy season. The present Irrigation Executive Engineer was not at all sympathetic towards the agriculturists. This fact was brought to the notice of the Chief Engineer when he visited the taluk with the Minor Irrigation Committee. Hence an officer who was more sympathetic towards the agriculturists should be appointed in place of the present Executive Engineer.

The following roads should be improved at an early date :—

(i) Kaleekavila—Edakod road.
(ii) Puthukada—Kollenkode road.
(iii) Padannalumnud—Vellathura road and
(iv) Kuzhithura--Kuzhivila road.

No useful purpose was at present served by the District Board of the taluk. Two or three roads urgently required for the taluk were unanimously approved by the District Board and were recommended to the Central Road Board. But the Executive Engineer recorded an opinion that these roads need not be taken up. The Central Board however recommended two roads mentioned as items (iii) and (iv), being provided for in the current year's budget and accordingly provision was made in the budget. But the Executive Engineer had not yet sanctioned the works for being taken up and perhaps the amounts would lapse. The Government should see that the amounts already provided were not allowed to lapse and should also arrange for the other two items mentioned also being carried out immediately.

Lastly, the member urged the necessity for providing a compound wall to the Marthandam English School. This was the subject of a representation at previous sessions of the Assembly. But nothing was done yet. There was a balance of Rs. 1,500 in the amount sanctioned for the construction of two new wings to the school building. This amount could be utilised for the purpose of putting up a compound wall to the school. This would avoid the necessity for an additional budget grant for the purpose.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Narayana Pillai. The first point that you mentioned relates to the abolition of tolls in the Padannalummud evening market and you extracted a portion of my reply to a like representation made by you last year in the Assembly. Quite true. At that time there was a recommendation from the subordinate officer that in his view tolls might be abolished and on the basis of that I did make a statement that I expected to pass early orders. But it was only after that that I found that the reasons given were not in any way

sufficient in themselves to justify action being taken with regard to that market alone and that this question will have to be considered with reference to other markets also similarly situated. The information with regard to these markets has not yet been received. In the changed circumstances, no orders have been passed on this matter.

Your representation contains several statements and requests. Some of them have to be characterised as unreasonably extreme. With regard to the Administrative Board, Medical Services, for instance, you said that Government should not consult them or if they give an opinion, their opinion should not be given weight to. It is a counsel which the Government will find it very difficult to accept in that form. Those who have got grievances very often press those grievances to an unreasonable extent. Government have to proceed in these matters by constitutional means. When there are expert departments, Government cannot always act against the wishes of the departments. This being a technical matter, the persons who are best qualified to give an opinion are the members of the Administrative Board. If the people were suffering from very serious difficulties, it is not at all likely that the Board would have ignored them. It was only recently that a medical officer was appointed in that dispensary and his work is being watched. I shall ask the Board to give me the results of the watch which they have been keeping and upon that Government will pass orders.

You have also made certain other prayers which will receive the consideration of Government.

86. Needs of the Vilavankod taluk.

MR. T. K. SUBRAMONIA AIYAR (*Municipal Council, Kuzhithura*) who made his representation in Tamil, spoke about the following needs of Vilavankod :—

1. The buildings of the Vernacular Middle Schools at Kuzhithurá and Munchira should be improved. For the Kuzhithura school, there was only one strong building and two or three thatched sheds. One of the sheds, being unsafe, was sold in auction and the classes were held in the verandah. The shed should be reconstructed before the next academic year and the other sheds should be made strong before the close of the current year. The Chief Engineer had prepared an estimate for Rs. 2,600 for the works, but the Director of Public Instruction was not earnest about it. The accommodation in the Munchira school was very poor. That school building also should be improved.

2. An Agricultural School and an Experimental Farm should be opened for the benefit of the *pakuthies* of Kaliyal, Arumana and Edakod. There were large tracts of land owned by private individuals lying waste in these places. The soil was quite fertile, but the tracts were malarial. A fair portion of these lands was owned by members of the depressed classes, who got them registered under concessional terms. The Agricultural School and Farm would prove of immense value to the place.